

recognition of his deep commitment to country and community. George L. Forbes is being honored today with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). For 17 years, Mr. Forbes has served as President of the NAACP, and helped support their mission of "ensuring the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons" and eliminating racial discrimination in our country.

George Forbes has committed his life to serving and helping others. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1951 to 1953. He taught social studies in the Cleveland public school system while completing his own education. In 1964, George was elected to the Cleveland City Council and his impressive career in public service included being Majority Leader of Cleveland City Council, Co-Chairman of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party, and the longest serving City Council President in the city's history. In 1971 George co-founded Cleveland's first black-owned law firm, Forbes, Fields, & Associates Co. L.P.A.

The NAACP is not the first to bestow high honors on this remarkable man. His vocation for bettering the lives of those around him has earned him recognition from the Black Affairs Council, Cleveland State University Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, the National Association of Security Professionals, the National Action Network Inc., and Baldwin Wallace College where he taught courses in Political Science. With this outstanding record of service, it's no wonder that the Cleveland Plain Dealer named Mr. Forbes as one of the 50 most influential people in Cleveland's history.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of George L. Forbes as he receives the Lifetime Achievement Award from the NAACP. Mr. Forbes is the prime candidate for this prestigious recognition. His legacy and unwavering commitment to public service will serve as inspiration to others for decades to come.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 19, 2009*

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2892—the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER T. KING

Bill Number: H.R. 2892

Account: Science & Technology/Research, Development, Acquisition, & Operations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Long Island Forum for Technology

Address of Requesting Entity: 111 West Main Street, Babylon, NY 11706

Description of Request: \$1,000,000 will be used to continue a pilot program to identify and transition advanced technologies and manufacturing processes that will achieve significant productivity and efficiency gains in the homeland security industrial base. It is an ap-

propriate use of taxpayer funds because this project will increase quality while reducing the costs of products delivered to first responders.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOSEPH WILLIAM MCCRAY, JR.

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 19, 2009*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Joseph William McCray Jr. was a devoted family man and an outstanding community leader.

A native of Pensacola, Mr. McCray was raised in the Carver's Court neighborhood in north Mobile. He was a graduate of Central High School and attended Tennessee State University.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, Mr. McCray dedicated over three decades to the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission Area Agency on Aging serving as the nutrition coordinator. He was instrumental in the development and operation of nutrition centers for the elderly in Mobile, Baldwin and Escambia counties. Following his retirement, he served as the director of the U.J. Robinson Memorial Adult Day Care Center. He had also served as the District 2 commissioner for Mobile's Human Relations Commission.

Mr. McCray joined the Mobile Area Mardi Gras Association (MAMGA) in the early 1970s and quickly became involved in all of the association's committees, including serving as financial secretary. He was instrumental in organizing MAMGA's joint functions with the Mobile Carnival Association. In 1992, Mr. McCray was elected as the third president of MAMGA and served until 1996. He is one of only a few men widely known as "Mr. Mardi Gras."

Mr. McCray was a past president of 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile, and he recently received their coveted Achievement Award. He was also a 3rd Degree Knights of St. Peter Claver and was a past president of the Comrades Social Club. An active member of his church, Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Mr. McCray served on the Parish Council, the Building and Grounds Committee, and many other affiliations within the parish.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a man who dedicated his life to south Alabama. Mr. McCray will be dearly missed by his family—his wife of 44 years, Faye C. McCray; his son, Joseph McCray III; his sisters, Jolita Dorsett and Severia Norton; and his grandchildren, Julian Christopher and Reagan Michelle McCray—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

#### INCREASING THE LEVEL OF EXPERTISE AND CULTURAL AWARENESS IN AFGHANISTAN

#### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 19, 2009*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I introduced legislation along with my colleague from

Washington, Mr. LARSEN, to enhance the ability of General McChrystal to bring our mission in Afghanistan to a successful conclusion.

One of the key problems facing our mission in Afghanistan is the limitation on service for nearly all military and most civilians deployed there. Nearly all Americans serve no longer than 12 months, costing the overall U.S. effort critical military, language and personal relationship experience needed to sustain momentum in the war effort.

General McChrystal intends to implement a "classic counterinsurgency campaign" designed to win the support of the Afghan people and drive a wedge between them and the Taliban. In a tribal culture like Afghanistan, it will be essential for General McChrystal to have people with established, personal relationships with local leaders in order for his strategy to succeed.

Our legislation authorizes a \$250,000 incentive bonus for servicemembers to agree to serve in Afghanistan for the duration of the mission, up to six years. This bonus would be paid at the end of their service in Afghanistan. The bill authorizes an additional \$250,000 incentive bonus for a servicemember who volunteers for the duration who scores a 4.0 on the Foreign Service Institute test for the dominant languages of Pashto and Dari. These soldiers would receive a payment of \$500,000 at the completion of their service in Afghanistan.

These "for the duration" volunteers would quickly become the elite of our effort, bringing the most skills to bear for senior commanders and troops in contact with the enemy. The knowledge they would bring cannot be taught in the U.S., it can only be gained through experience in the field. Just a handful of these soldiers in each Afghan province will make a world of difference.

#### HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF A&W RESTAURANT

#### HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 19, 2009*

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 90th anniversary of A&W, a famous and treasured American company.

Founded in Lodi, California, a city I am honored to represent, meals and root beer floats at A&W are a tradition for many families.

A&W started as a root beer stand owned by Roy Allen, who sold root beer for a nickel a mug on a downtown corner. The soda proved so popular that the company quickly expanded to four sites, and the concession evolved into what is thought to be the country's first "drive-in."

Later, Mr. Allen asked Frank Wright, one of his employees, to join him in business and the two formed the partnership that became A&W.

There are more than 675 A&W All American Food outlets in 15 countries and territories around the world, and A&W produces the world's number one selling root beer.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating A&W's 90 years of exceptional service.